(19) Japan Patent Office (JP)

(12) Publication of Unexamined Patent Application (KOKAI) (A)

(11) KOKAI Number: S60-69728

(43) Date of Disclosure: April 20, 1985

(51) Int. Cl.⁴ Identification Symbol JPO File No.

G 06 F 3/033 7060–5B

Requests for Examination: No requests
Number of Inventions: 1 (4 pages total)

(54) Title of the Invention: A See-Through Finger-Touch Input Device

(21) Application Number: S58-176461(22) Filing Date: September 26, 1983

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Specifications

1. Title of the Invention: A See-Through Type Finger-Touch Input Device

2. Claims

We Claim

- (1) A see-through type finger-touch input device characterized by the fact that it is comprised of multiple light sources arranged in a series with a fixed distance between them on one side of a display device, a sequence circuit which causes these light sources to successively switch on in a pulsed manner, a condenser-lens and a semiconductor position detection device which receive a beam of light returned as reflected light corresponding to an object for which a beam of light emitted from the above-mentioned light source indicates the coordinates on the above-mentioned display device, a circuit which carries out amplification conversion of the output of the semiconductor position detection device, and a decision circuit which processes the output of the circuit which carries out amplification conversion and the information from the above-mentioned sequence circuit; and that, relative to the coordinates X, Y of the location which has been indicated on the above-mentioned display device, in order for the conversion results of the circuit which carries out amplification conversion of the output of the above-mentioned semiconductor position detection device to become an output corresponding to the Y (or X) coordinate indicated on the display device, the above-mentioned semiconductor position detection device is located on the same side as the above-mentioned light sources and the X (or Y) coordinate is determined by the output of the above-mentioned decision circuit.
 - (2) The see-through type finger-touch input device described in Claim 1 characterized by

the fact that it is comprised of an infrared light-emitting diode as the light source and a PSD as the semiconductor position detection device.

- (3) The see-through type finger-touch input device described in Claim 1 characterized by the fact that a device with low reflectance at the wave length of the light source is installed on the side opposite to the position of the light source of the display device equipped with a light source.
- (4) The see-through type finger-touch input device described in Claim 3 characterized by the fact that the device with low reflectance at the wave length of the light source is an infrared light-absorbing plate.
- 3. Detailed Explanation of the Invention

(Field of Industrial Application)

This invention pertains to a see-through type finger-touch input device in which, without using a key board, data is inputted by touching a display screen with a finger and, in particular, uses light to detect the coordinates of the finger touch.

(Examples of Conventional Construction and Their Problems)

The majority of input-output devices for conventional computers, office equipment and information terminal equipment, etc. use keyboards and display devices. However, the occasions in which people who are not familiar with computers deal with the above-mentioned input-output devices is increasing and with this, the need for devices which are easy to use. Accordingly, seethrough type finger-touch input devices have been recently drawing attention. The following can be given as representative styles: the style using conducting film and constructed of a switch matrix; a device which detects the coordinates using a low-resistance sheet; the optical scanning style; the style in which the propagation time of a surface wave is detected; and the style in which a strain gauge is used and detection done using the force of pressing on the surface. Because this invention falls under the category of the optical scanning style, we will use this style as a conventional example.

Figure 1, Figure 2, and Figure 3 all show conventional see-through type finger touch input devices based on the optical scanning style.

Figure 1 shows a device in which the coordinates of the finger are detected using a light-emitting diode array and a light-detecting element array. 1 is a display device, 2 and 2' are light-emitting diode arrays used for X coordinate detection and Y coordinate detection, respectively, and 3 and 3' are light-detecting element arrays used for X coordinate detection and Y coordinate detection, respectively. Light-emitting diode arrays 2, 2' and light detecting element array 3, 3' respectively face the X axis and the Y axis and by scanning with only the opposite group of elements, the coordinates of finger 4 on display device 1 are detected. This device is theoretically simple, but has the drawbacks of many element boards and resolving power that is not very high.

Figure 2 shows a style which uses rapid reading light source 5 and CCD line sensor 6. Slit lens 7 is installed on the front face of CCD sensor 6 and the light receiving face of the CCD line sensor is set perpendicular to the screen diagonal of display device 1, positioned at the lower left and lower right of the screen. There is a linear rapid-reading light source at the left, right and top of the screen. In this style, it is possible to improve resolving power by increasing the number of CCD line sensor 6 elements, but the fact that rapid-reading light sources 5 are configured in a fixed position is a drawback.

Figure 3 shows a style which uses laser 8 as the light source and in which rotating mirror 9 and multiple parabolic mirror pieces 10 are arranged surrounding the tablet face. 10' is a

partially enlarged diagram of parabolic mirror pieces 10. In this style, when finger 4 is placed on the tablet surface, rotating mirror 9 is accelerated so that it rotates and because the laser light is obstructed four times, the finger is detected and the coordinates for the placement of finger 4 are obtained. This style has the drawbacks of using a moveable part, rotating mirror 9, and that it is not possible to use a curved screen because of the beam narrowing required by the use of laser 8.

(Purpose of the Invention)

This invention offers a see-through style finger-touch input device which eliminates the shortcomings in the conventional examples described above.

(Construction of the Invention)

This invention is comprised of multiple light sources arranged in a series with a fixed distance between them on one side of a display device, a sequence circuit which causes these light sources to successively switch on in a pulse-like manner, a condenser lens and a semiconductor position detection device which receive a beam of light returned as reflected light corresponding to an object for which a beam of light emitted from the above-mentioned light source indicates the coordinates on the above-mentioned display device, a circuit which carries out amplification conversion of the output of the semiconductor position detection device, and a decision circuit which processes the output of the circuit which carries out amplification conversion and the information from the above-mentioned sequence circuit; and achieves size reduction and greater economy by concentrating the light-emitting and light-receiving devices on one side of the display device.

(Explanation of a Working Example)

Figure 4 is a diagram of one working example showing the construction of the seethrough finger-touch input device of this invention. The basic construction is comprised of infrared light-emitting diodes 11-1, 11-2,, 11-n regularly lined up on one side of display device 1; infrared ray absorption board 12 arranged on the surface facing the infrared light-emitting diodes; semiconductor position detecting device 13 in which the emitted light of the above-mentioned infrared light-emitting diode receives the reflected light corresponding to finger 4 and which is comprised of, for example, a PSD (position sensitive detector) in order to detect the XY position of a finger on the above-mentioned display device 1; condenser lens 14 which is placed on the front of semiconductor position detection device 13, sequence circuit 15 which causes the above-mentioned infrared light-emitting diodes 11-1-11-n to sequentially switch on in a pulse-like manner; circuits 16, 17 and 18 which carry out amplitude conversion of the output of the above-mentioned semiconductor detection device 13, and decision circuit 19 which determines the X,Y positions of finger 4 on the above-mentioned display device 1 from the output of the above-mentioned sequence circuit 15 and circuit 18 which carries out amplitude conversion.

In Figure 4, semiconductor detection device 13 is on the same side as infrared light-emitting diodes 11-1-11-n. For example, the light resulting from the light-emission of 11-2 among the infrared light-emitting diodes which are sequentially switched on in a pulsed manner by sequence circuit 15 corresponds to finger 4 which is touching the XY coordinates on display 1 and is reflected and when it is condensed in semiconductor detection device 13 via condenser lens 14, currents 1₁, 1₂ are made to respectively flow through electrodes P₁ and P₂ of semiconductor detection device 13, at which time the output of circuit 18 resulting from circuits 16, 17 and 18 which carry out the above-mentioned amplitude conversion is produced as a value corresponding to the Y coordinate of finger 4, namely, the distance between finger 4 and

infrared light-emitting diode 11-2. The X coordinate of finger 4 is determined by the position of infrared light-emitting diode 11-2 and this position information is held by the above-mentioned sequence circuit 15. These are sent to decision circuit 19 and processed as a code expressing the location coordinates.

When finger 4 touches display device 1, the light emitted from infrared light-emitting diodes 11-1-11-n is absorbed by infrared wave absorption plate 12 on the side opposite to the infrared light-emitting diodes and because the reflected light is not returned to semiconductor position detection device 13, the alternating current component of the output of semiconducter position detection device 13 is zero. Because of this, the above-mentioned circuits 16 and 17 are set to be alternating circuit amplification circuits or circuits including alternating current amplification circuits. When the presence or absence of alternating current output is detected in the output of either 16 or 17, it is possible to determine whether finger 4 is or is not touching the screen of display device 1.

Furthermore, the above explanation describes the case of the infrared light-emitting diodes being arranged in the X axis direction on the display screen. However, it goes without saying that the same type of result is obtained even when these are arranged in the Y axis direction or in both the X axis and Y axis directions. It is also possible to line up multiple units of semiconductor detection device 13 in order to improve resolving power.

(Effects of the Invention)

As explained above, by means of this invention, using infrared light-emitting diodes as the light source and a semiconductor detection device as the light detecting device and by installing an infrared absorption board on the side facing the light source, it is possible to concentrate the light-emitting and light-receiving devices on one side of the screen, providing the advantages of making it possible to miniaturize the entire device and to reduce the number of elements, as well as to lower costs and to improve reliability by eliminating moving parts. 4. Brief Explanation of the Figures

Figure 1, Figure 2 and Figure 3 each show a conventional see-through finger-touch input device based on the optical scanning style. Figure 1 is a device which uses a light-emitting diode array and a light-detecting element array. Figure 2 is a device which uses a light-emitting diode display and a CCD line sensor. Figure 3 is a device which uses a laser light source as well as a rotating mirror and a parabolic mirror. Figure 4 is a diagram of one working example of the construction of the device of this invention.

1 - Display Device, 2, 2' - Light-Emitting Diode Array 3, 3' - Light-Detecting Element Array, 4 - Finger, 5 - Rapid Reading Light Source, 6 - CCD Line Sensor, 7 - Slit Lens, 8 -Laser, 9 - Rotating Mirror, 10 - Parabolic Mirror, 11-1-11-n - Infrared Light-Emitting Diodes, 12 - Infrared Ray Absorption Board, 13 - Semiconductor Position Detection Device, 14 -Condenser Lens, 15 - Sequence Circuit, 16, 17, 18 - Circuit Which Carries Out Amplification Conversion of the Output of Semiconductor Position Detection Device 13, 19 - Decision Circuit.

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Figure 1

Figure 3

Figure 4

(54) SEE-THROUGH TYPE FINGER TOUCH INPUT DEVICE

(11) 60-69728 (A)

(43) 20.4.1985 (19) JP (22) 26.9.1983

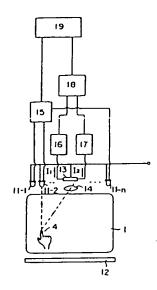
(21) Appl. No. 58-176461

(71) MATSUSHITA DENKI SANGYO K.K. (72) JIYUNJI KAJIWARA

(51) Int. Cl⁴. G06F3/033

PURPOSE: To provide light emitting devices and a photodetecting device to one side of a screen and attain size reduction by using infrared light emitting diodes as light sources, providing an infrared-light absorbing plate to the side facing the light sources, and using a semiconductor position detector as a photodetector.

CONSTITUTION: The intrared-light emitting diodes 11-1-11-n are arrayed regularly at one side of a display device 1, and the semiconductor position detector 13 composed of an image detector is provided at the same side. The infraredlight absorbing plate 12 is placed at the opposite side. A sequence circuit 15 allows the infrared-light emitting diodes to emit pulse light in order. For example, a finger 4 is placed as shown in a figure, and when the infrared-light emitting diode 11-2 turns on, reflected light is converged on the semiconductor position detector 13 through a condenser lens 14, so that an amplifying circuit 18 outputs the distance between the infrared-light emitting diode 11-2 and finger 4, i.e. value corresponding to the Y coordinate through amplifying circuits 16-17. The X coordinate is determined by the position of the infrared-light emitting diode.



19日本国特許庁(JP)

①特許出原公別

⑫ 公 開 特 許 公 報 (A).

昭60-69728

@Int.Cl.

識別記号

厅内整理哲号

母公開 昭和60年(1985)4月20日

G 06 F 3/033

7060-5B

審査請求 未請求 発明の数 1 (全4頁)

❷発明の名称 透視型指タッチ入力装置

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1. 発明の名称 透視型指チッチ人力接登 2. 特許損求の範囲

(1) ディスプレイ袋礁の一辺に一定の間隔をも って包列された複数の光原と、これらの光照をパ **ルス的に顧改点灯させるシーケンス回路と、前記** た 願か ら発射された 先束が同記ディスプレイ装置 上の・歴 ほを 指示する 物体に 当って 反射 尤として 及 って来る光束を受ける処光レンズ及び半旬体位置 後出鉄匠と、その半辺は位置後出鉄匠の出力を応 にほれてる回路と、 その地にはれてる凹 以の iii リ と同記シーケンス回路の情報を処理する初新日本 とより成り、前記ディスプレイ及巡上に指示され 大位位の性はx、 r K 対し、 闹记半的体位 22 线 iii 民国の出力を問題以及する国際の民事に決定がディ スプレイ接似上に指示されたY(又ロx)世にに 对记する出力となるように顧起すの体促近後出失 **姓を海北たのと同一辺に位置させると比に、 x** (又はて) 地口は高足利斯田のボカで定めること

を特似とする透視型指ラッチ人の芸匠。

(2) 先孫を赤外発光ダイオード、半時体位置校出版区を PSD で構成したことを特定とする特許調味の範囲無(1) 項記載の遊祝塑指 タッチ人刀装置。

(3) ためが設けられたディスプレイを似のその ためが位在する辺の対向辺に、そのための波長に 対して反射年の低い労盗を設けたことを特品とす る特別指求の範囲が川頂足板の造視型指チッチ人 刀板位。

(4) たびの成長に対して区別形の低い失程が非 外段吸収 ひてららことを特応とする特別請求の範 週 部間所足級の送限が照 メッナ人川以底。

3. 発明の詳細な説明

(在先上の相川分別)

(は果然のほ成とせの問題点)

就来为少说,一声,事故既然,故他而来既是为

第1回、前2回及び前3回はいずれらた正弦方式に1ら従来の透視型信ぎった人力をごを示すら のでもる。

は1 図は 発光 グイオード アレイと 光 校 出来 子 アレイ を用い て 珍 先 の 昼 飲 を 校 出 す る 袋 世 で あ る。 1 は ディスプレイ 後 匹、 2 及 び ご は そ れ ぞ れ X 昼 似 検 出 用 及 び Y 歴 微 校 出 用 の 発 犬 ゲ イ ォード ア レイ、3及び3、日でれておよれにほぼ川及び Y 連続後出川の九後出来(Y レイであり、兄れぞイ オードフレイで、2、1、九後出来(1 レイコ、3、2 とを X 植、 Y 植のそれせれに向い合せ、対向する 一切の女子だけ前なよかさせてディスプレイ発展 1 上の指すの単端を使加するものである。この状 既は 反應的には 筒 がであるが、 光子 ほが多く分解 能があまり高くないという欠点がある。

部2 例ははほんならと CCD シインセンサ 6 を川いたガスである。 CCD シインセンサ 6 K は 前面 K スリットレンス 7 が 立けられて より、 その CCD シインセンサ 6 の受 た面はディスプレイ 装成 1 の面面の対 内段 と 西近となるよう K 足 められ、 位 並は面面の 左 下 株 と な と か れ て い る。 面面の上、 右、 左 K は ね 状 の 透 校 九 低 ら が も る。 C の 方 犬 は、CCD ラインセンサ G の 米 子 及 な な ち が 形 状 的 K 場 所 める ことが て き る が 、 進 校 た が ち が あ な の K な 所 を る と い う 欠点が も る。

票3 図は光放としてレーザー 8 を用い、これを 図転與 9 と多数の放物遊算片 10 をメブレット面の

(発明の目的)

本発明は上記のようなは米別にかける父母を収り徐いた選択型指グッチ人刀装置を役取しようとするものである。

(乳別のは成)

本発明は、ディスプレイを位の一辺に一定の間隔をもって配列されたでなのためと、 これらの ためをバルス的に耐失点ける せるシーケンス 国帯 と、両足ためから 発射された た果が同紀 ディスプレイ 公田上の飛ばを お示する 物体に コって 反射 えと して 戻って ポム た果を 受ける 柴 ルレン ズ 及び 不 母 体

位は彼出版性と、その半の体は直接出版性の出力を物はスポナる回路と、その地にはポナる回路の出力と同様と処理する判断回路とより成り、ディスプレイに立の一辺領に発光、受光版性を集中して版性全体の小型化と経済化を図ったものである。

(災施例の説明)

11年160- 69728(3)

後出版日 13 の出力を増に以打する目的 16. 17 及 び 18 と、回記シーケンス回的 15 と均に以打する 回的 18 との出力から同記ディスプレイを成 1 上 少指 4 の位置 X. YY次足する利断回路 19 から 成っている。

匠地位を示す自分として処理される。

なか、上記説明では赤外元だディオードをディスプレイ画面上のX 他方向に配列させた場合を述べたが、これをY 他方向あるいは X 他、Y 他両方のに配列させても何似の効果を得ることは勿論であり、さらに分辨能を上げるみに半済体位は快出後世 13 を複数数並べることも可能である。

以上収明したように、本発明によれば、光原として赤外発光タイオートを、そして光枝出設立として半導体位位検出設置を用い、光原に対向しる辺に赤外吸取板を設けることにより、温面の一辺に発光、受光張度を集中して促くことが可能となり、延度全体の小型化及び不子致の減少に作う低価値化、可動部分の無いことによる高は気性化をはかることができるという利点を有するものである。

4. 図面の簡単な説明

第1回、第2回及び第3回はいずれらた走充方式による従来の透視型指タッチ入力装置を示すらので、第1回は発光ダイオードアレイと大侠出生子アレイを川いた装置、第2回は発光ダイオードアレイとCCDラインセンマを用いた装置、第3回はローデた底と回転便かよび放物面でを用いた装置であり、第4回は本発明装置の保政を示す一次到の以時因である。

特許出版人 松下亚苔醛菜株式会社

化性人 症 別 症 司

